CcoNesct 449 South 90th Street West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

CoNect Direct

August, 1997 Vote, Ed4

Deciding on a catalog format is difficult \$100 products deserve more than a line or two of text, but the total size has to be kept down for cost reasons. We are trying on a new format this issue—a very basic price list, and Spotlite On \dots

Spotlite On - will delve a bit deeper into a few specific products each issue Eventually, the back issues will form a complete catalog of things CoCo.

Telephone Tag

Anyone who has tried to reach CoNect by telephone has likely been frustrated for the last month or so My other job is construction related, and it is That Time of Year...Please bear with me until things cool down in September.

Round and Round the UG goes......

Here we go again! Those who are members of the OS9 User's Group AND inhabit one of the online services available know all about the recent fiasco between ex-president Jim DeStefano and the membership at large. Those members who are not active in telecommunications and don't belong to a local club might have gotten the wrong message from Mr. DeStafenos recent letters

It ain't so. The OS9 User's Group is a nonprofit organization, currently incorporated in the state of lowa As such an organization, it cannot legally be disbanded in the manner attempted by the ex-president Despite the impressively worded letters and refund checks issued, the group has NOI been disbanded

One of the founding officers of the OS9 User's Group, Inc. is Boisy Pitre Mr Pitre served as president of the organization until forced to step down due to conflict of interest problems with his 'day job' at MicroWare. He has stepped back in to help reorganize the group, and this process is moving right along. Much of the following information was provided by him

All members as of July 1993 will remain members until the end of this year, despite any refund monies received from former officers. There is no need to send in dues until that time However, donations will be accepted. I'm sure the treasury is a bit thin right now—so I for one plan to do a little donatin

Carl Boll and Joel Hegberg have stepped forward to produce MOTD. Members should be seeing this publication fairly soon, with full info on the new group

The OS9 Users Group 6158 West 63rd St. Suite 109 Chicago, IL 60638

Diskertation

There are 2 basic paths a CoCo can take Either is broken apart for the motherboard and built as a hobby computer or it stays Tandy. The first group has no problem with floppy drives—get a controller and mount some drives in whatever case was chosen for the machine. The owners of stock systems have a more difficult path, needing a whole 'system', including a power supply, case, and oversized data cable. This is no small gotcha, as a new and empty external floppy case/ps costs more than the pair of drives it will contain.

This makes the salvage value of older Tandy systems a concern The object, of course, is to end up with a 'modern' set up of 1 to 3 half height 360k or 720k double sided drives. Older systems need various degrees of upgrading to do this.

Tandy sold basically four disk systems for the CoCo, all with differing capabilities. They where

Color Computer Floppy Disk— Predates the FD50x numbering system. The controller was an old 12 volt monster with analog data separators— meaning it has adjustment pots on the disk controller and has to run in a MultiPak on CoCo2 or CoCo3. This old controller card has one interesting feature. It's the ONLY CoCo floppy controller capable of running 14Meg floppies! Has to be modified, but it can be done. The rest of the system is similar to the FD500.

FD500 System— Came with a 5v full size controller, which works on any CoCo DECBIO on 24 pin ROM Vertical drive case with a fullheight single sided drive and the infamous Tandy toothless cable. To upgrade this system, throw away the bare drive and the data cable. Put a Y adapter on the single power connector, and add 1 or 2 half height drives and a new 2 drive cable. Vanilla disk basic users should get a DECB-11 ROM. You can flip the case on it's side if the vertical mounting looks too weird.

FD501 System— First of the 'shorty' controllers Made by TEC, these controllers have a 24 pin ROM with DECBI! Newer horizontal case mounts one single-sided half height drive, and the toothless data cable is still-present. Upgrading is simple-replace the data cable and add new drives as money permits. Presents 5.25" drive connections— big power plug and cardedge data cable 3.5" drives will need the full adaptor kit—mounting rails, power plug adaptor, and data cable adaptor.

FD502 System— On the whole, the best Tandy unit Shorty controller now made by Tandy adds of chokes to the data cable connector. 28 pin DECBII ROM allows easily mounting EPROM. The data cable is usually fine—Tandy got tired of pulling pins. The drive is actually pretty nice—a very quiet double sided TEC unit and the only 'keeper'. Tandy ever sold. The internal connections are weind 35" style small power plugs and 5.25" style candedge data cable means almost any drive is going to need some sort of adapter. The most difficult thing to do quickly is add a 5.25" 360K drive. Small to big power adaptors are not that common.

Other Systems - Drive systems where sold at one time by several vendors. The main difference is the controller supplied Most of the aftermarket drives I've seen can be considered about the same as a FD501 with new data cable- just add floppies to

fill

Controllers— The workhorse is of course a halting 1773 floppy controller, as typified by the Tandy FD50x series or almost anybodies Mini or xxxl controller Some third party controllers add extra ROM slots, but the usefullness of these is diminishing as the number of alternate ROM based DOS drops

The next step up is a no-halt buffered controller Still based on the 1773, they don't support hi-density drives but are almost required for multitasking OpSys like 059. Quite hard to find anymore. There are a few Disto SC2s still around (from Disto) but the Sardis doesn't even show at swap meets. The upside is no-halt isn't as important to hard disk owners, who mainly use the floppies for archives.

One oddity in the CoCo market is the first Radio Shack disk controller. This piece of work used the 1793 chip, so it could do the faster data transfer rate needed for thi density 14M drives. It's a halting controller with analog (Always Needs Adjusting Lessor Or Greater) data separators, easily spotted by the trimpots on the board. If you have a driving need to write 14M MSDOS disks under DS9, one of these might be worth the hassel.

Mounting a New Drive- Since the CoCo uses IBM style floppies, finding new drives is fairly simple Any 360K or 720K drive in 5.25 or 3.5 inch size will do Most 3.5" drives have a 5.25" mounting option- which is needed to fit the bays and connectors in CoCo drive cases

These IBM drives will need to be rejumpered Sounds like a daunting prospect when faced with all the different lettering systems used by drive makers, but it can be puzzled out First, all IBM drives are jumpered to be the second drive in the series (IBM plays it's own games with drive data cables!) The drive select jumpers will be labeled somehow...... d or ds or s followed by numbers 0-3 or 1-4... look for a jumper block in the second position if replacing the first drive, move this down. if adding a second, it's ok where it is You can add one more drive jumped to the third position, but drive four is not supported by CoCo controllers if any of them are double sided.

The other jumper change is more insidious. The motor that spins the drive can be switched on several different ways. IBM only turns on the motor of the drive selected, while CoCo assumes all drive motors are on if any drive is used. When copy or backup across 2 different floppies, this differance becomes important—the CoCo doesn't wait for the other drive to spin up to speed and files get messed up or backup takes forever Look for another series of jumpers labeled m something There may be only two, or a whole series like ms, m0, m1, m2, m3. However this drive is jumped, it's wrong! Move this plock to the unnumbered option (or the other choice if only 2).

If in doubt, make note of the original positions, format a few disks and play with it Do a 2 drive backup using different motor selects. The best one will be obvious afterward.

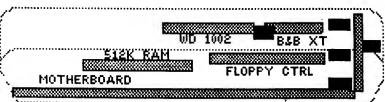
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XPander

The MPander is designed to allow the most compact expansion of the CoCo possible. It is NOT a replacement for the MultiPak.

There is exactly one use for an XPander- if you have a 'serious' CoCo with floppy and hard drives plus a serial port, perhaps running a ROMPak game or 'weird' piece of hardware occasionaly, then this is it! Looking at the front of a CoCo, the layout is





You'll note there is lots of room for upgrading in a stock CoCo case, provided the motherboard is lowered a bit The CoCo Kit version supplies a new lower case shell to do this The kit also includes an external power supply to supply 5/12/-12 volts- enough for the CoCo, a few floppies, and a hard disk. Thats right, you don't need powered cases for the drives, and 12 olt cards will be powered from the Xpander buss Physically, things as a bit tight- but Disto's 2 Meg upgrade even fits if the directions are followed.

For those who are repackaging a CoCo in a PC type case, the board only version allows you to buy only the part you need. Total size of the electronics package is 12x7x3-thats a half inch longer and 2 1/2 inches taller than the motherboard alone. Small enough to fit in almost any computer case, plus the motherboard can be positioned so the back panel is directly accessable—no expensive extender adapters needed.

For either user, the no-slot serial port adds a much needed feature without using any buss slots and little space inside

Call or write CoNect for a free fact sheet.

Color Computer Hardware

Computers	
Color Computer Two Used 64K CoCo Older VDG	\$19.95
Color Computer Three Used 128K CoCo3 with 87 GIME	\$69.95
XPander CoNect's CoCo repackaging system See ad	\$89.95
CoCo Kit for XPander keep the CoCo look	\$29.95
Stickit for XPander internal joyatick hi/low adapter	\$19.95
YPower for 12v devices on yeable +/-12v 400ma	\$ 9. 9 5
Upgrades	
CoCol/2 64k RAM upgrade 8 or 2 chip with instructions	\$7.95
· -	\$49.95
CoCo3 512k RAM upgrade various makes CoCo 6309 CPU upgrade installed 90 day warranty	\$29.95
DECB UI.1 ROM specify 24 or 28 pin ROM	\$12.95
MultiPak CC3 upgrade satelite board for small mpi	\$19.95
Maith ak CC3 upgrade saterite board for 2mort mp	. , , , ,
Buss Mounted Devices	
EARS Electronic Audio Recognition System from Speech Systems	
only one so please call	\$79.95
Mini232 6551 based with hardware flow support, jumperable	
ded swap and port address (yeable users-see ypower)	\$49.95
MademPak reworked 300 bps modem cheap backup toom board	\$24.95
Mass Storage	
Cassette Kit CCR-81 recorder, AC supply, cable, 4 blank tapes	\$29.95
Floppy Disk Kit new 360k drive mounted in 2 bay case. Used	\$179.95
halt type controller from various makers.	
Floppy Disk Drive 360 5 1/4" 40 track half height	\$59.95
Floppy Disk Drive 720 3 1/2" 80 track hh with brackets	\$64.95
Floppy Disk Drive 1.4m "hi density"- not for most CoCos	\$69.95
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Pointing/Keying

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Atari Joystick Adapter for 'Nintendo style' games From Zebra	\$5.95
RS Calor Mause the little block mouse with the big red button	\$12.95
RS Joysticks a pair of cheap full floating joysticks	\$3.95
Replacement CoCo3 keyboard unused stock keys	\$19.95
Cables	
Cassette DIN to submini (RCA available on request)	\$4.95
Comp. Dideo Replacement TV cable Six feet	\$3.95
Comp. Video Switch with internal 70 to 300ohm balun	\$2.95
Disk Power Converter largeM to smallF or reverse	\$5.95
Disk Data- 2 Flappies four feet in length	\$14.95
Disk Data- 3 Floppies five feet	\$21.95
Disk Data- Add-A-Drive Y cable plugs into full drive case	\$14.95
Printer- Centronics db25 to c36	\$9.95
Printer- Tandy serial DIN4m to DIN4m	\$4.95
RGB Monitor- Magnavox six feet	\$14.95
Serial Cable- Custom any combination of db25,db9,DIN4	\$9.95
Serial Cable- Standard length 12-20foot db25m to db25m	\$7.95
Serial Cable- LAN 150 foot shielded 8 conductor db25m	\$29.9
Other	
MC10 16k Ram upgrade static RAM pak, new, in box	\$9.95
Packet Camputer Cassette Interface New, in box	\$14.95
UCR Head Cleaner 8mm wet type Tandy #44-1147	\$4.49

Disk Extended Color Basic

Applications

CoCo Checker	For CoCo2, from Spectrum	New	\$3.95
Color Profile	Disk based CoCo2 database program.	Used	\$19.95
Disk EDTASM	6809 assembler/editor/debug. 80col patch	Used	\$19.95
Elite*File	CoCo2 database	Vs ed	\$7.95
Elite*Word	CoCo2 word processor	Used	\$7.95
Fast Dupe	Disk duplicator from Spectrum.	New	\$7.95
Investograph	CoCo2 Investment analysis.Can download data	Used	\$8.95
Disk Spectaculator	directly from CompuServ or Dow Jones. Disk based (32 column screen) spreadsheet from the Shack, 99 rows and 99 columns	Used	\$12.95
Telewriter 64	Still the ultimate CoCo2 word processor	Used	\$12.95

Games

	J.R. and the gang still live in this disk based graphic adventure from DataSoft, No color RGB	Used	\$9.95
FlightSim1	The ancient CoCo2 'night flight' simulator.	Used	\$ 3.95
Ghanabwana	Early Steve Bjork arcade game, RGB color patch.	New	\$4.95
One on One	Who says Larry Bird is gone? Not a Bird fan?		\$8.95
Pitfall 2	DK, meet Dr. J! 2 player or you vs. CoCo. RGB color. Fairly challanging dodge the meanles maze game		\$4.95
Sands of Egypt	from Activision. RGB color patch. Graphic adventure from DataSoft. Difficult for beginning mapmakers— expect to wander thought the	used	\$9.95
Shamus War Game Designe	desert a bit! B&W on rgb. A shoot the badguys maze game. RGB color patch. TThe name says it all! From Sportsware		\$6.95 \$9.95

RomPaks

Arkanoid Breakout	type 'smash the wall' game from Taito. New	\$5.95
CoCo2 ar	nd 3 in the SAME RomPak!	- •-
Castle of Tharrogad Update	of Dungeons of Daggorith game for CoCo3. Used	\$4.95
	ontrol, saves game without cassette!	
Color File 2 Tape bas	sed CoCo filing system. New	\$3.05
Color Scripsit 2 Tape bas	sed word processor. CoCo2 or 38x24 New	\$4.95
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Diagnostics Old CoCo	o2 diagnostic rom. New	\$2.99
Downland Addictiv	e vertical maze. CC2 and CC3 versions. New	\$0.95
Dungeons of Daggoritha Co		\$0.05
	hes that keep going out. Save to tape.	. ,,
GFL Football Single o	layer football game. Unique players POV New	\$4.95
	and the traditional overhead. Many	4-4-95
teams-	Some of them can really challange your	
coaching	skills!	
Mindroll Interest	ing 3-D maze game New	\$7.95
Poltergeist "They're	here."	\$3.95
Rad Warrior Vertical		\$6.05
Rampage Vent you	ur frustrations- demolish a city or twelve New	\$7.05
Shanghai Mah Jon		\$0.95
C		\$0.95
C 011 C 11		\$0.95
T-4-1-		\$9.95
·		\$4.05

OS9

Level One	DOS and assembler for CoCol or CoCo2	New	\$29.95
Level Two	DOS and BasicO9 for CoCo3		\$34.95
MultiVue	GUI for Level2 includes Windint (replacement for		\$22.95
Patch059	stock grfint, required by some programs) Many public domain patchs and an auto-install program (auto requires 2 ds disk drives)	New	\$3.95
Basic09	Why did they leave Basic out of Levell?	Used	\$14.95
D.L. Logo	Excellent learning language.		\$19.95
Pascal	enhanced ISO Standard 7185 LevelO Compiler		\$39.95

OS9 Applications

Color Computer Ar	tist This drawing program can output OS9 wind format files Just merge with any window for instant graphics	New	\$4.95
DeskMate	CoCo2 Calendar, Text Editor, Index cards,Paint Ledger, and telecom. No xmodem mode, however.	New	\$12.95
DynaCalc	Best spreadsheet available for OS9 CoCo. BOcol in Lvl2. Many cell format options. Sorts.Windows. Sticky titles.Trig. Lookup tables. More!	New	\$29.95
Home Publisher	Desktop publishing for CoCo. Could be faster.	New	\$9.95
PhantomGraph	Excellent graphing for Lv12. Line, bar, pie, scatter plots! Explode, stack, color em! Import data from dynacalc or sylk files	New	\$19.95
Profile	Good database from the makers of DynaCalc.	Used	\$19.95
Screen Dump Utilit	YDump LvII screens to printer	Used	\$4.95
T/S Edit	Full screen text editor OS9 and DECB included	Used	\$9.95
T/S Word	Print formatter for T/S Edit	Used	\$9.95

OS9 Games

Cave Walker	Vertical maze game comes with Levell boot, will run as is under your Level2!	Used	\$9.95
Flight Simulator 2	Very impressive simulation from Sublogic Same as older MicroSoft Flight Simulator for IBM- clouds, wind, radio navigation, even mechanical failures of the aircraft are emulated	Used	\$12.95
Interbank Incident	Mouse driven CoCo2 adventure even speaks (with S/S Pak) No color on RGB	New	\$12.95
King's Quest 3	The ultimate CoCo3 adventure! From Sierra. 512K required just to harness the graphics	New	\$ 17.95
Koronis Rift	CoCo3 Arcade/Adventure You'll need those lightning reflexes and a brain	New	\$7.95
Microscopic Mission	NSave the patient while battling the deadliest enemy of all, the human body!	New	\$9-95
Rescue on Fractalu	15 Shoot the bad guys Save the good guys Enjoy the graphics	New	\$7.95
Rogue	Maze adventure has been around for ages! depends on interesting play, instead of flashy graphics	New	\$8.95
Sub Battle Simulati	Of American or German WW2 era submarines	New	\$10.95
Zone Runner	Adventure in interstellar commerce	New	\$6.95

School's In!

Rumble Platt	Onto the on organizations on setting form ages (Re13)	Nous	\$7.05
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ChildPace	the control of the second of the second $\hat{\theta}\theta$ menths	New	\$ 7 95
Color Math	Tape based anithmetic drill, covering the basic 4	New	\$ 3.95
Donald Duck's	Playground This Disney Learning game teaches logical thinking, matching skills, money changing eges 7 to 11	New	\$9.95
Kidwriter	Fids 6-10 make up a picture, then write a story to match Introduces word processing, encourages creativity. From Spinnaker	New	\$ 7.95
Magic Spells	Spelling for ages 6-10 years	Used	\$7.95
Mickey's Spac	e Adventure Teaches mapping, problem solving, and planetary science the Dianey way For ages 8 and up	New	\$9.95
Microscopic M	fisson Introduction to almost every medical speciality- microbinicguito lifestyles for disease prevention CC3	New	\$9.95
MopTown Par	ade. Teaches logic, discrimation and problem solving 6-10	lised	\$7.95
Success with	Math Ceaned towards high school algebra students. Two self paced tutorials cover linear and quadratic equations	New	\$9.95
Telling Time	with Donald Tape Disney game teaches children 5-8 how to tell time	Used	\$4.95
Where in the	World is Carmen Sandiego? This has to be the most enloyable geography lesson I've ever seen!	New	\$ 9.95
Winnie the Po	ooh in the Hundred Acre Wood Teaches map reading and logical tribling Ages 7 and up	New	\$9.95

Bookshelf

BasicO9 Tour Guide	If you are interested in learning BasicO9, this is $\ensuremath{\text{\textbf{New}}}$ the book for you' By Dale Puckett.	\$9.95
Beginner's Guide to U	Jindows Covering the Level Two windowing system New graphics, usage with BasicO9 First (and only) of a planned two volume set from Mssrs. Plucket and Dribble stands alone nicely	\$5.95
Color Computer Asser	nbly Language Programming Bill Barden's New classic covers the 6809 and interfacing to the DECB rom Predates the CoCo3, but still an excellent primer to CoCo assy.	\$5.95
Mause Pad	If cutesy cheese wedges and tiny footprints leave New you cold, this is the place to slide your mouse. Spill proof plastic laminated sheet lists error numbers and descriptions, display codes, command summary, even a hex table!	\$5.95

Tape

Bedlam You	u're in, and you want to get out of this nutty place!	Used	\$4.95
Madness and the M	dinutaur Search for treasure	Used	\$4.95
Pooyan	Arcade Save yer piglets from the big bad wolf.	Used	\$4.95
Pyramid 2000	Slightly reworked version of "Original Adventure"	Used	\$4.95
Rakki-Tu	Venture into the temple of a lost civilization	Used	\$4.05

The Short List

The Short list is a collection of simple copies and other soon to be gone products. Every thing you see here will probably be sold in a few weeks, so he sure to call first!

DECB Apps.

Backup Lightening	The fastest disk backup avaialible for CoCo	\$12.05
Comics+	EZFriendly lets you draw your own strips	\$7.95
Musica 2	Copy the score over, then play it in 4 voices	\$12.95
QuickPro+2	White your own database without writing anything	\$9.95
PTer m	OTES and UT100 emulation	\$19.95
UIP Library	ricid procs, speller, dbase, calc, and terminal for CC2	\$49.95

OS9

	Microwares	K&R C	Compiler f	or Level 1	or Level2	\$59.95
OS9Util+DiskFix	Colorwares	LvII up	does double	e side, ŵild	loards,more!	\$12.05

Books

Color Computer Playground 42 type in programs	\$5.95
Complete Guide to OS9 Mr Dribble's intro to OS9 (any level)	\$9.95
Computer Programming in BASIC Language 460pg Intro to basic	\$7.95
TRS80 CoCo Programs dilithium Press does 27 ECB programs	\$ 5.Q5

About CoNect

The trend is growing! CoCo suppliers are dropping faster than support from Radio Shack. Most of the ones left carry only a few items, with occasional lots of surplus goods sold at blowout prices.

Like most remaining vendors, CoNect has a few items we manufacture, and while they provide most of our income, we want to do something more for the community To this end, we attempt to stock everything. Every dollar CoNect takes in (and a few more) goes into purchase of formerly common items like CoCo's, disk controllers, software, and other CoCo-specific goods

Our pricing reflects our determination to remain in the market. If you find somebody blowing out DynaCalc's for \$5, by all means buy one. But rest assured that long after those 2 dozen units are gone, CoNect will still be selling them, as well as replacement CoCo's and ports and mice and.....

Ordering Info:

Our mailing address is:

CoNect 449 South 90th Street Milwaukee, Wi 53214

Or call (414) 258-2989 evenings and weekends. Else, leave EMail on Delphi (RICKULAND) or Internet (rickuland@delphi.com)

We accept personal checks or money orders Sorry, no plastic yet. All orders please include shipping and handling charge of \$4.00 (US) or \$6.00 (Canada).

Legal Stuff:

All hardware manufactured by CoNect carries a 90 day limited warranty Used hardware has been tested, unfortunately, we can't guarantee anything more than it will work when you receive it

Software that doesn't boot will be repaired or replaced at our option. What this means is, anything we have (or can get) more of will be replaced with a new copy. Used or surplus software will be restored from our master copy.

Wanted, Dead or Alive!

CoNect is interested in buying your old Color Computer or 'KMA' (TC70, MM/I, SystemIV) hardware or software, working or not. Software must include the original disk, even if it doesn't boot. In fact, we often don't care if you even have a working copy! We are after that original disk, manual, and license:-)

We are also interested in your original software padkages or hardware designs CoNect can assist in production, and pays competitive royalties for each unit sold